the feasibility of utilising certain promising foreign technologies that enable the production of pig iron without the use of coking coal. Location, capacity and likely investment will be determined as soon as the examination, which is in progress, is completed.

Romanian offer to buy iron ore from India

2220. SHRI R. SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his recent visit to Romania, the President of that country had offered to buy iron ore and ore concentrate from India; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The President of Romania was keen that our trade should increase to the benefit of both sides. He offered to purchase 100 million tonnes of iron ore and iron ore concentrate till the turn of the century, of course, ensuring that the trade between the two countries is balanced.

Functioning of the State Public Service Commissions

2221. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of 9th July, 1984 about the state of affairs prevailing in the matter of appointments made by the State Public Service Commissions in the country, especially in Punjab and Haryana;

(b) whether the Central Government have received any complaints in this regard;

(c) whether Government have received similar complaints in respect of Union Public Service Commission also; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to enlarge the function of the U.P.S.C. to cover the recruitment to semi-Government and public sector units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. However, as per Article 316 of the Constitution, the Chairman and other Members of a State Public Service Commission are appointed by the Governor of the concerned State and, therefore, matters pertaining to Haryana and Punjab Public Service Commissions are the concern of the respective State Governments.

(b) to (d). No, Sir.

Protest against Amendment of NSA

2222. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement issued by the Society for Development of Socialist Laws and Democratic Practice, New Delhi protesting against the Ordinance amending the National Security Act and inserting of a new section 5A therein;

(b) whether there have been protests from other quarters also in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) to (c) The said statement of the Society and the views expressed by few other quarters against the insertion of Section 5A in the National Security Act, 1980, have come to the notice of the Government. The apprehensions expressed are unfounded.

Grade I Posts of Central Secretariat Service

2223. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFAFIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts of Grade I of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) as on 1st July, 1984 indicating the number of permanent and temporary thereof;

(b) the number of temporary posts in Grade I of CSS (Under Secretary) in existence for the last three years; and

(c) the reasons for not converting them into permanent ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indo-Pak Relations

2224. SHRI T. THANGABALU:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken in recent months to improve mutual relations between India and Pakistan, especially in the fields of travel, commerce and culture: and

(b) whether any progress has been made in concluding a 'no war pact' between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The measures taken recently to improve relations with Pakistan include the signing of a Protocol on Group Tourism, amendments to the Visa Agreement of 1974, and agreement on introduction of through railway bookings between seven designated stations in the two countries. The Government of Pakistan has yet to respond positively to several other proposals made by us, such as the signing of a Cultural Cooperation Agreement, further measures to ease travel, reopening of the Khokrapar-Munabao checkpost and resumption of trade in the private sector on a nondiscriminatory basis.

(b) During his visit to Islamabad in May, 1984 our Foreign Secretary had extensive discussions with the Pakistan Foreign Secretary on our draft of a Friendship Treaty and Pakistan's draft of a Non-Aggression Pact. As a result a measure of convergence on some aspects of the drafts was achieved. However, differences on basic aspects remain.

Meetings of National Integration Council and its sub-Committees

2225. SHRI T. THANGABALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the tentative dates on which the next meetings of the National Integration Council and its sub-committees are proposed to be held; and

(b) what are the details of the work done by the Council so far, particularly in arresting the outbreak of communal violance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The National Integration Council last met only recently on 21-1-1984.